

OUTGOING MESSAGE

COMINT

Approved For Release 2002/01/14 : CIA-RDP78S01932A000100020071-8

CHANNELS

AGE	COI	ACF	TOG	TPE	MRO	TRI	PAGE	OF	PAGES
SCM	0	0	0	0	0	0			
CLASSIFICATION									
CONFIDENTIAL CIA/OCI /WHIZ 740228									
MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR			DATE-TIME GROUP			CITE		MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER	
			CIA/HISS						

SOURCE REF:

ROUTING	1		4		7		10	
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	3		6		9		12	

TO: IMMEDIATE WHITE HOUSE//SITUATION ROOM FOR MR MCNAMIS.

STATE PCI//OPERATIONS CENTER MR FRY, NMCC//ATTENTION

25X1A

WARNING NOTICE SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS INVOLVED

ITEM NO: 1

DATE: 28 FEB 74

SUBJECT: NEW ETHIOPIAN APPOINTMENTS

REF:

EMPEROR HAILE SELASSIE'S NEW GOVERNMENT AND MILITARY APPOINTMENTS REPRESENT A DETERMINED EFFORT TO REACH SOME ACCOMMODATION WITH DISSIDENT TROOPS. THE SITUATION, HOWEVER, WILL REMAIN UNSETTLED UNTIL THE NEW GOVERNMENT BEGINS TO SHOW THE DIRECTION IN WHICH IT INTENDS TO MOVE, AND UNTIL IT BECOMES CLEARER HOW MUCH AUTHORITY HAILE SELASSIE WILL GIVE TO THE NEW PRIME MINISTER. THE NEW CABINET AT A MINIMUM WILL HAVE TO RESPOND TO THE TROOPS' ECONOMIC DEMANDS IF THE GOVERNMENT IS TO REGAIN CONTROL.

DATE:
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ENDALKATCHEN MAKONNEN, THE NEW PRIME MINISTER, IS PROBABLY NOT THE STRONGEST CHOICE HAILE SELASSIE COULD HAVE MADE, BUT HE IS A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER COMPARED TO THE INDECISIVE MINISTERS WHO HAVE RESIGNED. WHILE CONSIDERED A CONSERVATIVE IN ETHIOPIAN TERMS, ENDALKATCHEN IS PROBABLY MORE POLITICALLY SENSITIVE AND MORE POLITICALLY AWARE THAN FORMER PRIME MINISTER AKLILU. ENDALKATCHEN HAS SERVED MAINLY IN DIPLOMATIC POSTS, BUT IS CONSIDERED PRIMARILY A POLITICIAN BY US OFFICIALS WHO KNOW HIM--AN ASSESSMENT ENDALKATCHEN HIMSELF SHARES. HE SHOWED A GREAT DEAL OF PERSONAL INITIATIVE AS ETHIOPIAN ENVOY TO THE UN, AND ON AT LEAST ONE IMPORTANT VOTE DISREGARDED THE EXPLICIT INSTRUCTIONS OF THE EMPEROR.

LT. GEN. ABIYE ABEBE, THE NEW DEFENSE MINISTER, IS A PROGRESSIVE WHO HAS URGED SWIFTER IMPLEMENTATION OF REFORMS AND IN THE PAST HAS REPORTEDLY TRIED TO IMPRESS HAILE SELASSIE WITH THE NEED TO PREPARE ETHIOPIA FOR A LESS PERSONAL FORM OF GOVERNMENT. ALTHOUGH LOYAL TO THE EMPEROR, HE HAS JOINED WITH OTHER ARISTOCRATS IN PRESENTING PETITIONS TO THE EMPEROR CALLING FOR BASIC CHANGES.

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LT. GEN. WOLDE SELASSIE BERAKE, FORMER GOVERNOR OF SALE PROVINCE, HAS BEEN APPOINTED THE NEW ARMY COMMANDING-GENERAL. E-2 IMPDET. (SPECIAL DISTRIBUTION: MEA DIV AND NIO [REDACTED])

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DATE: 28 FEB 74
 ORIG: [REDACTED] NMCC
 UNIT: CTA OPERATIONS CTW
 EXT: [REDACTED]

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